A BRIEF TESTIMONY TO THE Great Duty of Prayer:

Shewing

The Nature and Benefit Thereof.

To which are added,

Many Eminent *and* Select Instances of God's Answer to Prayer:

Collected out of the

Record of Holy Scriptures.

By *F. T. One of the People call'd* Quakers.

With a *Postscript*, by *F. F.*

The Second Edition, with Additions.

Watch and Pray, Mat. 26. 41. Col. 4. 2. *And all things whatsoever ye ask in Prayer, believing, ye shall receive*, Mat. 21. 22. Mark 11. 24. Ephes. 6. 18.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A BRIEF
Teſtimony
TO THE
Great Duty of Prayer.

Watch and Pray, was the Command of our (a) Lord Jeſus, the Holy Author of the Chriſtian Religion: And he gave a good Reaſon for this Command, *That ye enter not into Temptation.* Our Lord knowing how uncapable Man is to perform any good

(a) *Mat.* 26. 41.

of himſelf, promiſed *To Pray* (b) *the Father to ſend the Comforter, that he may abide with us for ever; even the Spirit of Truth*; and verſ. 26. ſaith, *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghoſt, whom the Father will ſend in my Name, He ſhall teach you all things, and bring all things to your Remembrance:* Then certainly Prayer, ſo great a Duty to God, and Beneficial to our Selves, is included.

(b) *John* 14. 16.

Our Lord puts *Watching* before *Prayer*, that we may have due Regard unto, and Wait upon his Holy Spirit, to feel its Leadings and Aſſiſtance therein: *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the Sons of God: For ye have not re-*

received the Spirit of Bondage again to fear, but ye have received the Spirit of Adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father, Rom. 8. 14, 15. So Waiting upon the Lord, in the Gift of his Spirit, is neceſſary for all to be found in, who deſire to perform this Duty aright, (or indeed any other Duty, which is acceptable unto God) if we go about Prayer, and take not this Advice, we begin wrong; For it is by the *Spirit of Chriſt, which God ſent forth into their Hearts, that the Children of God* cry, *Abba,* * *Father:* And from (c) *within* (as our Lord ſaid) proceedeth all Evil. Therefore we have need to apply our ſelves to *within*, to find

*Gal. 4.6.

(c) *Mat.* 15. 19.

the Remedy where the Diſeaſe is; and as we wait in true Silence, ceaſing from our own Thoughts and Wills, with our Minds ſtayed and fixed upon the Lord, truſting in Him, we ſhall be made ſenſible of our Wants and Infirmities, and the Sin which doth moſt eaſily beſet us: So as the State of our Souls is opened to us, we ſhall ſee our own Weakneſs and Inability to reſiſt any appearance of Evil, of our ſelves. And God will not deſpiſe ſuch, who are poor in their own Eyes, but will direct them by his Holy Spirit how to *Ask*; not only inclining their Wills to Prayer, but opening their Underſtandings alſo,

alſo, what to *Pray* for. And inaſmuch as we know not at what time the Devil our (*) Adverſary (who as a Roaring Lion, walketh about, ſeeking whom he may devour) will aſſault us, nor with what Temptations he will appear; therefore can there be any Set time, or Form of words preſcribed, which we muſt uſe to God, when we implore his Succour and Relief? Otherwiſe than as we feel the drawings and motions of his Holy Spirit in our Hearts, which will not be wanting to incline and aſſiſt us upon every occaſion; yea, very often, not only when we are tempted, but at other times alſo.

(*) 1 *Pet.* 5. 8.

And various were the Methods, both as to *Time*, *Place Behaviour*, and *Geſture of Body*, in which the Holy Men of God ſought the Lord in Old Times, and prayed to Him.

As to Time.

David and *Daniel* prayed (*a*) three times a day; and *David* ſaid to the Lord, *Seven* (b) *times a day do I praiſe Thee, becauſe of thy Righteous Judgments.* And *Paul* beſought the Lord (*c*) three times upon one and the ſame occaſion; ſo did our Bleſſed Lord (*d*) in the Garden; and the

(a) *Pſal.* 55. 17. *Dan.* 6. 10.
(b) *Pſal.* 119. 164.
(c) 2 *Cor.* 12. 8.
(d) *Mat.* 26. 39, to 44.

the Prieſts and Levites praiſed the Lord (e) *day by day*; and *David* ſaid, *My Lips ſhall Praiſe Thee; thus will I Bleſs Thee while* (f) *I live: I will lift up my Hands in thy Name.* And Chriſt ſpake a Parable to this end, *That Men ought* (g) *always to pray and not to faint.* And the Primitive Chriſtians were commanded to *pray* (h) *without ceaſing, in every thing giving thanks, for this is the Will of God in Chriſt Jeſus concerning you:* And again, *Continue* (i) *in Prayer, and watch in the ſame, with*

(e) 2 Chro. 30. 21.

(f) Pſal. 63. 4.

(g) Luke 18. 16.

(h) Heb. 5. 17, 18.

(i) Col. 4. 2.

Thankſgiving: And the Apoſtle *James* adviſed, that *if any was* (k) *Sick or Afflicted, let them Pray.* —— Now,

(k) *James* 5. 13, 14, &c.

As to Place.

Iſaac went out to Pray or Meditate in the (*l*) Fields; and it was in the (*m*) *Way-ſide* that *Abraham* interceded for *Sodom*; and his Servant prayed by a (*n*) *Well of Water*; *Moſes* beſought the Lord (*o*) in the *Mount* for Iſrael when they had ſinned; *Aaron* and his Sons to make Attonement once (*p*) a Year for him-

(l) *Gen.* 24. 63.
(m) *Gen.* 18. 16, *to* 23.
(n) *Gen.* 24. 12.
(o) *Exod.* 32. 11.
(p) *Lev.* 16. 9. *Heb.* 9. 7.

himſelf and for Iſrael, in the the moſt Holy Place; *Joſhua* did Worſhip by the (*q*) Walls of *Jericho*; *Gideon* prayed (*r*) by the Wine-preſs; *Samuel* in the Camp (*s*) of Iſrael; *David* in the (*t*) Cave when he fled from *Saul*; *Solomon* in the (*v*) Temple, at the Conſecration thereof; *Jehoſophat* in the ſame (*w*) place, with his People, at a Solemn Feaſt, becauſe of their Enemies; *Hezekiah* upon his (*x*) Bed when he was Sick; *Manaſſeth* bound in (*y*) Chains of Iron

(q) *Joſhua* 5. 14.

(r) *Judges* 6. 13.

(s) 1 *Sam.* 7. 9.

(t) *Pſalm* 57.

(v) 1 *King* 8.

(w) 2 *Chro.* 20.

(x) 2 *King* 20.

(y) 2 *Chro.* 33. 11.

in

in *Babylon*; *Ezra* at the (z) River *Ahava* for ſucceſs in his Journey; *Nehemiah* in the Palace of (a) *Shuſhan*, for Favour in the Eyes of *Artaxerxes* the Emperour; *Jonah* prayed in the *Whale*'s (b) Belly; the Diſciples of Chriſt in a Storm at (c) Sea; the poor Blind Beggars on the (d) Highway; *Peter* upon the (e) Houſe-top; *Paul* and *Silas* prayed and ſung Praiſes when in (f) Priſon with their Feet in the Stocks.

(z) *Ezra* 8. 21.

(a) *Neh.* *Chap.* 1.

(b) *Jonah* *Chap.* 2.

(c) *Mat.* 8. 24.

(d) *Mat.* 20. 30.

(e) *Acts* 10. 9.

(f) *Acts* 16. 24.

As

As to their outward Behaviour, or Posture of Body.

Abraham stood (g) before the *Lord* when he interceded for *Sodom*; *Jacob* worshipped leaning (h) upon the top of his Staff; *Moses* spread (i) abroad his hands unto Heaven; *David* sat (k) before the Lord and prayed; *Elijah* the Prophet put his Face between (l) his Knees when he prayed for Rain; *Moses* and *Aaron* fell on (m) their Faces before the Lord and prayed for Israel; *Jacob* when he

(g) *Gen.* 18. 22.
(h) *Heb.* 11. 21.
(i) *Exod.* 9. 29.
(k) 1 *Chro.* 17. 16. 2 *Sam.* 7. 18.
(l) 1 *King* 18. 42.
(m) *Numb.* 16. 22.

(n) *Gen.* 32. 30. he prayed, saw God Face (*n*) to Face.

God said, *I have Sworn by my self: The Word is gone out of my Mouth in Righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every Knee* (*o*) *shall Bow:* And the *Psalmist* says, *O come let us Worship and Bow down, let us Kneel* (*p*) *before the Lord our Maker:* *Abraham*'s Servant made his *Camels* (*q*) Kneel whilst he prayed to God; King *Solomon* (*r*) kneeled down on his Knees; *Daniel* kneeled (*s*) upon his Knees, and prayed and gave Thanks

(o) *Isa* 45. 23. *Rom.* 14. 11. *Phil.* 2. 10.

(p) *Psalm* 95. 6.

(q) *Gen.* 24. 11.

(r) 2 *Chron.* 6. 13. 1 *King.* 8. 54.

(s) *Dan* 6. 10.

Thanks to God; *Ezra* fell upon his (*t*) Knees, and ſpread out his Hands unto the Lord his God; and there came a certain Man to our Lord Jeſus, kneeling (*v*) down, ſaying, *Lord have Mercy on my Son*; and there came one running, and kneeled (*w*) to him, *&c.* And a Leper came beſeeching him, and kneeling (*x*) down to him, that he might be clean; and *Paul*, when he had Commended the Church to God, and to the Word of his Grace, kneeled (*y*) down, and prayed

(t) *Ezra* 9. 5.

(v) *Matth.* 17, 14.

(w) *Mark* 16. 17.

(x) *Mark* 1. 40.

(y) *Acts* 20. 36.

with

with them all; and at *Tyre*, *Paul* with the Diſciples, and their Wives and Children, kneeled (*z*) down on the Shore and prayed; and our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, the great Pattern to all Chriſtians, he kneeled (*a*) down and prayed; and the firſt Martyr, *Stephen*, in his laſt Prayer (*b*) kneeled down and prayed for the forgiveneſs of his Perſecutors; and *Peter*, when he raiſed *Tabitha*, kneeled down (*c*) and prayed; and *Paul* bowed his (*d*) Knees unto the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, on behalf

(z) *Acts* 21. 3.

(a) *Luke* 22. 41.

(b) *Acts* 7. 60.

(c) *Acts* 9. 40.

(d) *Eph.* 3. 14.

half of the Church; and as the Bowing of the Knees is a Figure of the ſubjection of the whole Man unto God, and the Lord Jeſus, who has (e) Created us, and *Bought* (f) *us with a Price*; ſo is alſo the Uncovering of the Head, in the time of publick Prayer unto God; which *Paul*, who did not ſhun to declare the whole (g) Counſel of God, has ſignified in his Epiſtle to the (h) *Corinthians*, and giveth this Reaſon, *Foraſmuch that Man is the Image and Glory of God, and is a token of his Subjection unto Chriſt, who is the Head of every Man; for every Man praying*

(e) *Eph.* 3. 9.
(f) 1 *Cor.* 6. 20.
(g) *Acts* 20. 27.
(h) 1 *Cor.* 11.

Praying or Prophecying, having his Head covered, dishonoureth his (i) *Head*; which Reverent Behaviour, of Kneeling with the Head uncovered, hath been the constant Practise of the People call'd *Quakers*, in their *Prayers to God*, even to this Day, as many Thousands are *Witnesses*: And though it be our Duty to be found in this *Comely Order*, (as the Apostle calleth it) where other accidents hindereth not; yet it is not the outward Forms which Recommendeth us to God, or gives our Prayers Acceptance with him; but it is as we offer them up in the *Spirit* of *Grace*, (k) *wherein* (as the Apostle saith)

(i) Verse 4.

(k) Eph. 1. 6.

ſaith) *God hath made us accepted in* (Chriſt) *the Beloved*; as we Pray in the (*l*) *Holy Ghoſt*; with holy (*m*) *Confidence*, or Boldneſs; with unfeigned (*n*) Lips; in (*o*) Fervency; and with Hearts Deſire, (*p*) which may not always be expreſſed in Words, but ſometimes with (*q*) *Groanings* which cannot be uttered; and ſometimes with *Faſting*, (*r*) yet all this is to be performed by the help of the Spirit; it was the Spirit which helped (*s*) the Infirmities of the Saints of old; it was the

(l) *Jude* 20.
(m) *Heb.* 4. 16.
(n) *Pſalm* 17. 1.
(o) *Col.* 4. 12.
(p) *Rom.* 10. 1.
(q) *Rom.* 8. 26.
(r) *Acts* 14. 23. 1 *Cor.* 7. 5.
(s) *Rom.* 8. 26.

Spirit

Spirit that taught them to Pray as they (t) ought; it was the (v) Spirit that made (v) *Intercession* for them, according to the Will of God; thus did the Primitive Christians Pray, with the (x) Spirit, and with Understanding; they did Sing (y) with the Spirit, and with Understanding; they did Bless (z) with the Spirit, and the People did say *Amen.*

(t) *Ibid.*
(v) *ver.* 27.
(x) 1 *Cor.* 14. 15.
(y) *Ibid.*
(z) *Verse* 16.

If we diligently Watch, and are brought into a right Frame of Mind, and moved of the Lord to Pray, we need not premeditate, nor doubt of the Assistance of the Holy Spirit

rit to teach us what we ſhall Pray, when we approach before God, than when we are called before Magiſtrates for the ſake of Chriſt, which was promiſed, the *Holy Ghoſt* (a) *ſhall teach us the ſame Hour what to ſay.*

(a) *Mark* 14. 11.

The Primitive Chriſtians knew not how to Pray, as they ought, but as the *(b)* Spirit helped their Infirmities;

(b) *Rom.* 8. 26.

as aboveſaid: Then ſurely we have great need to be diligent in the application of our Minds to the ſame Holy Spirit, that thereby we may be made fit to offer unto God an acceptable Sacrifice, an Offering ſeaſoned with his Grace, from whence

whence God may ſmell a ſweet Savour, and accept it from us.

The Holy Spirit is the Myſtical Salt, whereof the outward Salt under the Law (c) was a Figure, where it is ſaid, *Neither ſhalt thou ſuffer the Salt of the Covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy Meat-Offering; with all thine Offerings thou ſhalt offer Salt.* This Salt was to ſeaſon and purifie every Sacrifice under the Law; yea, and every Sacrificer too, in this Diſpenſation: For our Lord Jeſus brought it nearer, when he ſaid, *Every one muſt be ſalted* (d) *with Fire, and every Sacri-*

(c) *Levit.* 2. 13.

(d) *Mark* 9. 49.

Sacrifice ſhall be ſalted with Salt. Without which our Offerings will be of no more acceptance with the Lord, than was the Prayers and Oblations of the *Jews* of Old, whom God reproved thus, ſaying, *(e) When ye come to appear before me, who hath required theſe things at your hands?* But if we keep the Conditions, upon which the Promiſes are, the Lord will certainly keep his Word; who ſaid, *Seek, and ye ſhall find; ask, and it ſhall be given; knock, and it ſhall be opened unto you.* Not ſuch Petitioners as the Apoſtle *James* ſpeaks of *(f)* Who *asked*, but *received not*,

(e) *Iſaiah* 1. 12.

(f) *James* 4. 3.

not, because they *asked amiss*; but *seek* in Faith and Humility, *believing* God is present, and able to do all things. Our Lord promised, (g) *All things whatsoever ye ask in Prayer, believing, ye shall receive.* The Parable of the unjust Judge, (h) and importunate Widow; and the Man who call'd up his (i) Neighbour at midnight, to supply him with Bread to feed his travelling Friend; and of Parents giving good things to their Children, (k) are great inducements to us, to be found in the frequent Practice of this excellent Duty.

(g) *Mat.* 21. 22.

(h) *Luke* 18. 1, to 8.

(i) *Luke* 11. 5.

(k) *Luke* 11. 11.

And

And though the deſpiſed People of God, called *Quakers*, have been evilly Traduced, and groſly Miſrepreſented, as if they denied this great Ordinance, or Duty, of Prayer: I have not heard of any People upon Earth, who own Prayer more truly, and whoſe Spiritual Intereſt it is ſo to do.

1*ſt*. They own it Truly, becauſe they believe and declare it unto others as a Fundamental Truth, that God in his Mercy hath given unto all Men, through Jeſus Chriſt his dear Son *(l)* a Meaſure or Manifeſtation of his Spirit to profit withal; without which, as hath been already

(l) 1 *Cor.* 12. 7.

ſaid, we cannot do any thing acceptable to God. This is the Comforter, that teacheth all things; the Word of Faith nigh, in the Heart (m) and in the Mouth; it is alſo called, The Word (n) of Grace, which is able to build us up, and give us an Inheritance among them which are Sanctified, through Faith which is in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord. This *Word*, *Spirit*, *Light* or *Grace*, which came by Jeſus, and through Him is extended unto all Men, is a remedy which God hath in Mercy provided for Man; and it is as univerſal as the Diſeaſe: *For as by the Offence of one* (Adam)

(m) *Rom.* 10. 8.

(n) *Acts* 20. 32.

(Adam) *(o) Judgment came upon all Men to Condemnation, even so by the Righteousness of one* (Jesus Christ) *the free Gift came upon all Men unto Justification of Life.* This is the Christian's Guide and Teacher in all things, especially in things immediately relating to God; and as this Spirit sanctifies the Heart, and brings forth a pure Offering out of it, God accepts thereof: He regards Truth in the Inward Parts, not Outside Appearances only, but the Sincerity of the Heart; it was his demand of Old, *(p) Son give me thine Heart.* Not a multitude of Words, with-

(o) Rom. 5. 18.

(p) Prov. 23. 26.

out this, will prevail with God: Our Lord reproved the (q) Pharisees for their long Prayers, when their Hearts went after their Covetousness; yet thought, like the (r) *Heathen*, to be heard for their much Speaking, or vain Repetitions; but he commended the poor *Publican*, who in the sense of his Sins, made a full Confession, but a short Prayer, (s) *God be merciful to me a Sinner*; and Pronounced him rather Justified than the *Pharisee*.

(q) *Mat.* 23. 14.

(r) *Mat.* 6. 7.

(s) *Luke* 18. 13.

And because we dare not offer up Prayers to God, until we feel our Hearts moved there-

thereunto by his Spirit, which maketh (*) *Interceſſion for us according to the Will of God*; no more can we joyn with thoſe who pray without the ſenſe of this Spirit and Fear of God, and can immediately turn from their vain and idle Diſcourſes to Prayer, and from their Prayers back again to their Diſcourſes. We have been convinced, not only that ſuch Prayer availeth nothing with God, but alſo that he is diſpleaſed with it, for he hath ſaid, (†) *I will not hold them Guiltleſs that take my Name in vain.*

(*) *Rom.* 8. 26.

(†) *Exod.* 20. 7.

The Publick Prayers put up to God in the Name of Jesus, in our Solemn Assemblies for the Worship of God, as many Thousands can bear us witness, are evident Proofs that we do not only own, but use true Prayer.

2*dly*, It is our Spiritual Interest to be frequent in this Practice, for we daily reap the Benefit thereof. If God take care of Sparrows, (*t*) cloath the Grass, and array the Lilies, and provideth for the Ravens (*v*) when their young Ones cry unto him, will not he regard us, and hear our Prayers and Cries, when we make Supplication to Him in the Name

(t) *Luke* 12. 24, to 28.
(v) *Job* 38. 41.

Name of his Son, in whom he is well pleaſed; (w) and for whoſe ſake he is pleaſed with Man, and grants us ſupplies ſuitable to our Neceſſities? We have good reaſon to love Prayer, even from the Experience we have of our being accepted of God therein. And truly as the caſe ſtands with us, we ſhould be very unhappy without this Priviledge. It is well known, manifold and cruel have been the Sufferings of this People, whom Men have perſecuted, reviled, and ſpoken all manner of Evil againſt falſly for the ſake of Chriſt, and the Righteouſneſs of his Kingdom, as our Lord fore-

(w) *Mark* 1. 11.

told long since (x) should be the Portion of his Followers; and they have not only patiently born and endured what was permitted to come upon them from unreasonable Men, but Satan also by himself hath used great and manifold endeavours, if possible, to drive them from their Faith and Obedience in Christ; to effect which, he hath raised Enemies within, and we have often found it to be as our Lord said, a Man's Enemies (y) are those of his own House, *Inward Assaults, Temptations and Buffetings.* The Devil envied and raged at them, the World hated and persecuted

(x) *Mark* 5. 10, 11.

(y) *Math.* 10. 36.

cuted them; what a ſad Condition ſhould we be in, if we had not this Priviledge, to fly to God, and ſeek his Face? Like Children, who when they are apprehenſive of Danger, run with great boldneſs to their Parents; and though ſometimes they cannot expreſs themſelves to relate their Fears and Troubles, yet their Parents have Compaſſion, and receive them with open Arms, and are ready to defend them to their utmoſt; *How much more*, as our Lord ſaid, (z) *ſhall our Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?* (h) *Luke* 11. 13. *John* 10. 29. *None is able to pull us out of his Hands, he is greater than all.*

It

It cannot be related what immediate Comfort and divine Aid ſuch have received who truly ſought his Face; whereby they have many infallible Proofs that there is a God (*a*) who heareth Prayer, and lifts up the Light of his Countenance upon his Children, whereof their Souls are more joyful than thoſe (*b*) whoſe Corn and Wine increaſeth; and they have been thereby ſo ſtrengthened, and filled with Heavenly Joy, that they have eſteemed all their Sufferings, Tribulations, Slanders and Reproaches, as *Riches*, being ſo many Tokens of their Diſcipleſhip to Jeſus, whom

(a) *Pſalm* 65. 2.

(b) *Pſalm* 4. 7.

whom they desire to follow, that they may receive the Promise, (c) *Great shall be your Reward in Heaven.*

(c) Mat. 5. 12.

Therefore let none slander nor defame us with this false Charge, of Denying Prayer; for we do faithfully declare, as above, that we sincerely own and practise It, and have good cause to continue therein, both from our own Experience, and the Examples of others: Holy Men and Women, as they are Recorded in Holy Scriptures, in the several Ages of the World, they prayed to God upon many Occasions and Exigents.

I ſhall give ſome Inſtances of ſuch who prayed, and the Lord did ſignally appear, and granted them their Requeſts. Let us pray in Faith as they did, and our Petitions will be heard; for God is the ſame as ever he was, as willing to hear, and as powerful to ſave, as in former Ages. *My Hand is not ſhortened that I cannot* (*d*) *Save, neither is mine Ear heavy that I cannot Hear, ſaith the Lord.*

(o) *Iſa.* 59. 1. and 10. 2.

But before I ſhall mention thoſe places of Scripture that regard the Vertue and Power of Prayer, I would be well underſtood what I mean by Prayer: True Prayer is a deſire of the Soul, whether expreſſed

expreſſed by words or not, from a ſenſe of the want of that the Soul prays for; which ſenſe no Man can give himſelf; it is the Spirit of God alone: And to thoſe this Spirit of Prayer is given, who in ſome meaſure obey the Spirit, turning at its Reproof from the Evil, and that which is reproveable in the ſight of God; and this is the true reaſon why ſo many miſs in this great Duty; they pray amiſs, having not a ſenſe of what they pray for.

I ſay, true Prayer is not only Words, the beſt of Words; for the Eſſence and Life of Prayer, is that divine ſenſe which is received through

through the Preparation of the Heart by the Spirit of God; and it is this ſort of Prayer I recommend in this ſhort Diſcourſe; and if People would be ſo ſerious and kind to themſelves, as to conſider how little they receive of that they ask for, and how much they are daily found in a Contradiction to their own Prayers, they would eaſily ſee how much they are out of the right way of true Prayer. Our Lord commanded *Watch and Pray*; therefore they that would *Pray* aright, muſt *Watch*, they that *Watch* muſt *Wait*: And what muſt they wait for? That God would pleaſe by his Spirit to prepare their Hearts to Wor-

ſhip

ſhip Him acceptably. Therefore no Man can preſcribe Forms to the Holy Ghoſt: For as the Holy Spirit begets Senſe of Wants, ſo many times Wants beget Words; and ſuch Words have a Spirit and Life with them; this is Praying in the Name of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt; to wit, in his Divine Power and Authority; and therefore Succeſsful, and that in all Ages, as the following Inſtances do evidence and illuſtrate.

Jacob wreſtled with the Angel; he Wept, and made *(e)* Supplication; and by his Strength he had Power with God, and prevailed

(e) *Gen.* 32. 25. *Hoſ.* 12. 3.

vailed like a Prince. God (f) ſhut up Heaven at *Elias*'s Prayer, for the ſpace of three Years and a half, that there was a great Famine; he Prayed again, and the Heavens gave Rain, and the Earth brought forth Fruit. *Moſes* Prayed (g) for *Aaron*, when the Lord was ready to have deſtroyed him. At the Prayer (h) of *Joſhua*, the Sun and Moon ſtood ſtill for the ſpace of a whole Day. *Samuel* Prayed, and the Lord (i) diſcomfited his Enemies with a terrible Thunder. *Abraham* Prayed, and obtained the Promiſe of a Son

(f) *James* 5. 17.

(g) *Deut.* 9. 20.

(h) *Joſh.* 10. 12.

(i) 1 *Sam.* 7. 9, 10.

Son (k) to be his Heir, and of the Land of *Canaan* for an Inheritance, with the innumerable increaſe of his Seed. *Jacob* Prayed, and eſcaped the edge (l) of the Sword; for he was greatly afraid of his Brother *Eſau*: But God turned the Heart of *Eſau*, that he imbraced him kindly, and parted ſo. *Gideon*, in great weakneſs, Prayed (m) to the Lord, and was made ſtrong, and confirmed by Signs, and became a Deliverer of *Iſrael*, out of their Bondage. *Iſaiah* the Prophet, and *Hezekiah* the King (n)

(k) *Gen.* 15.

(l) *Gen.* 32, & 33 Chapters.

(m) *Judg.* 6.

(n) 2 *Kin.* 19.

Prayed, becauſe of the Threats and Blaſphemy of *Rabſheka*, General of the King of *Aſſyria*'s Army; and the Lord heard them, and opened the Mouth of his Prophet to foretell Good unto *Iſrael*; and ſent his Angel, who ſlew in one Night 185000 Men of the *Aſſyrians*, and *Iſrael* was delivered at that time. At the Prayer (o) of *Abraham*, God healed *Abimelech*, the King, his Queen, and Family. At the Intreaty (p) of *Iſaac*, after twenty Years Marriage, God gave him two Sons. *Rebekah*, and *Hannah*, (q) both beſought God, concerning Children;

(o) *Gen.* 20. 17.

(p) *Gen.* 25. 21.

(q) *Gen.* 25. 22. 1 *Sam.* 1. 27.

dren; and their Prayers were anſwered. *Moſes*, *Aaron*, and *Phineas*, were lively Types of our Lord Jeſus, the One Mediator between God and Man, and were as Saviours to the People; often making Interceſſion and Attonement for them, when the Anger *(r)* of the Lord was kindled againſt them.

(r) *Exod.* 32. 11, 24. *Numb.* 25. 13. & 16. 43, to 50.

Chriſtian Reader, much might be ſaid upon this Subject, and many more Examples brought out of the Holy Scriptures, of thoſe wonderful things wrought by Prayer and Faith; Particularly of the many Supplications made to our Bleſſed Lord Jeſus, when on

Earth; upon which he raiſed (s) the Dead, healed (t) the Sick, and forgave (v) Sins: To which Examples the Apoſtle *James* might allude, when he exhorted the Primitive Chriſtians to Prayer: *And if any be ſick, let him call for the Elders of the Church, and let them pray over him: And the (x) Prayer of Faith ſhall ſave the ſick, and the Lord ſhall raiſe him up; and if he have committed Sins, they ſhall be forgiven him.* But I ſhall ſay the leſs, intending to annex hereunto many Inſtances, collected out of the Holy Scriptures;

(s) *Mat.* 9. 25.
(t) *Mat.* 8. 5, to 13.
(v) *Luke* 7. 47.
(x) *James* 5. 14, 15.

tures; whereby, in a ſhort time, one may ſee (for, incouragement) thoſe Miraculous things wrought in former Ages; which otherwiſe we cannot find in much Reading, being mixed in Scripture among other Matters. I thought to conclude here, but muſt take notice of another great Inducement we have to this Duty; and it is the greateſt Example of all that can be brought, to wit, Our Lord Jeſus, He who commanded us to *Watch and Pray*, ſet us Himſelf for a Pattern: And tho' the Father always (y) heard him; yet for the ſake of others, *He Cryed with a loud Voice.* It is ſaid in another place,

(g) *John.* 11. 41, 42

Though

Though he was (z) a Son, yet in the *Days of his Flesh, he offered up Prayers and Supplications, with strong Crying and Tears, unto Him that was able to save him from Death; and was heard in that he feared.*

(z) *Heb.* 5. 7.

He sought (a) *solitary places*, Praying alone unto the Father; yea, and sometimes (b) all *Night*; see his most Excellent *Prayer* in the 17th of *John*, for Himself, for his Disciples, and for all those who shall Believe in Him: For what were these things done, and the Records thereof preserved till now, but for our Learning?

(a) *Luke* 4. 42. & 5. 16. *Luke* 9. 18.

(b) *Luke* 6. 12. *Mat.* 14. 23. *Mark* 6. 46. 48.

Learning? We have great need of it; for we can have nothing but what we receive: And though God be good, and a Fountain full of all Bleſſings, yet he will be ſought unto for theſe things. Therefore let us be Faithful in doing what is his Will, and refuſing whatſoever is contrary thereunto, and we need not doubt but God will hear us when we call upon Him; as the Scripture ſaith, *If any Man be a Worſhipper* (c) *of God, and doth his Will, him he heareth.*

(c) *John* 9. 31.

John Tomkins.

London, 29. 11*th* *Month*, 169$\frac{4}{5}$.

Inſtances

INSTANCES OF *God's Answer* TO PRAYER.

1. *Abraham*, the Father of the Faithful, being Childleſs, prayed unto the Lord for an Heir, complaining, That *Eliezer*, the Steward of his Houſe, was like to be his Heir: And the Word of the Lord came to *Abraham*, promiſing, He, whom he ſuppoſed, ſhould not be his Heir; but

but he that ſhould come forth out of his own Bowels ſhould be his Heir, whoſe *Seed*, he promiſed, *ſhould be for number like the Stars in the Firmament*, Gen. 15. 2, 3, 4, 5.

2. *Abraham* prayed for *Iſhmael* his Son, and God anſwered him, (and repeated the aboveſaid Promiſe, of giving him a Son by his Wife *Sarah*) and ſaid, *As for* Ilhmael, *I have heard thee; behold, I have bleſſed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly: twelve Princes ſhall he beget, and I will make him a great Nation*, Gen. 17. 18, 19, 20. which was fulfilled, ſee *Gen.* 25. 13, 14, 15, 16, 18.

3. *Abraham* prayed to the Lord for King *Abimelech*, and

his Queen and Family; and *God* heal'd them, and they bare Children, who before were Barren, *Gen.* 20. 17, 18.

4. *Abraham* prayed for *Sodom*, and the Lord was intreated, that he granted him the Six Requests which he made; the last of them was, *That if there were Ten Righteous Persons in the City, he would spare the City for those ten's sake.* Gen. 18. 23, to 33.

5. At the Prayer of *Lot*, the Lord spared the City *Zoar* for a Refuge to him, when he fled from the Destruction which came upon *Sodom*, &c. *Gen.* 19. 18, to 23.

6. The Eldest Servant of *Abraham* prayed to God to give him Success in his Errand,

rand, and a Token, whereby he might be certain which was the Perſon that was to be his Maſter's Wife; and the Lord granted him his Requeſt: That, that very Maid coming to the Well, ſhould with willingneſs (upon his asking her for Water) ſay to him, *Drink, and I will give thy Cattle alſo*, was She whom God had appointed to be a Wife for *Iſaac*, Gen. 24. 12, to 45.

7. *Iſaac* being Childleſs twenty Years after Marriage with *Rebekah*, prayed to the Lord for his Wife; and the Lord was intreated of him; and *Rebekah* bare *Jacob* and *Eſau*, Gen. 25. 21, to 26.

8. *Rebekah* being with Child, enquired of the Lord, and God answered her, That *Two Nations are in thy Womb, and Two manner of People shall be separated from thee; and the one People shall be stronger than the other, and the Elder shall serve the Younger*, Gen. 25. 22, 23.

9. *Jacob* in his return from *Padan-Aram*, News was brought him, that his Brother *Esau* was come to meet him with Four Hundred Men; and *Jacob* was greatly afraid, and distressed, and prayed unto God for Deliverance from the hand of his Brother; and God heard *Jacob*, and turned the Heart of *Esau*; so that when he came near, he ran to meet

Jacob,

Jacob, and embraced him, and kiſſed him, and was pleaſed with him, *Gen.* 32. 6, 9. and 33. 4.

10. *Jacob* wreſtled with the Angel (and wept, and made Supplication to God) and like a Prince, had power with God, and prevailed, and obtained what he prayed for (to wit, a Bleſſing) and the Lord bleſſed him, and changed his Name from *Jacob* unto *Iſrael*, *Gen.* 32. 28. & 35. 9, 10. *Hoſea* 12. 4.

11. The Children of *Iſrael* ſighed, by reaſon of their great Bondage under the *Egyptians*, and their *Cry* came up to God, and he heard their Prayers and Groanings, and remembered his Covenant with *A-*

braham, *Isaac* and *Jacob*; and said, *I have heard their Cry, by reason of their Task-Masters, and I am come down to deliver them out of the Hands of the Egyptians*, Exod. 2. 23, 35. & 3. 7, 8, 9. Numb. 20. 16.

12. At the Prayer of *Moses*, the *Plague* of Frogs upon *Pharaoh*, and over the Land of *Egypt*, ceased; and the Frogs died, *Exod.* 8. 4, 12, 13.

13. *Moses* prayed, and the *Plague* of Flies also ceased through out *Egypt*; for the Lord did according to the Word of *Moses*, and he removed the Swarms of Flies from *Pharaoh* and his *People*, there remained not one, *Exod.* 8. 29, 30, 31.

14. Again, at the Prayer of *Moſes*, the *Plague* of Thunder, Lightning, Hail and Rain (which was unuſual in the Land of *Egypt*) ceaſed; for as ſoon as *Moſes* went out of the City, and ſpread abroad his Hands unto the Lord, the Thunder and Hail, *&c.* ceaſed, and Rain was not poured upon the Earth, *Exod.* 9. 28, to 33.

15. At the Prayer of *Moſes*, the *Plague* of Locuſts ceaſed, which had eaten up the Herbs of the Land, and Fruit of the Tree, that the Hail had left; for the Lord turned a mighty ſtrong Weſt-wind, which took away the Locuſts, and caſt them into the red Sea, there remained not one Locuſt in

all the Coasts of *Egypt*, Exod. 10. 17, 18, 19.

16. When *Israel* murmur'd at *Marah*, because of the Bitterness of the Waters, *Moses* cryed unto the Lord, and the Lord shewed him a Tree; which, when he had cast into the Waters, the Waters were made sweet, *Exod.* 15. 24. 25.

17. *Israel* murmur'd against *Moses* at *Massah*, for want of Water; he fled to the Lord by Prayer, and cryed unto him; God answered, and commanded him to go to the Rock at Mount *Horeb*, and smite it with his Rod, wherewith he smote the River, and Water gushed out thereat, sufficient for the whole Camp, *Exod.* 17. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

18. Becauſe of the Idolatry of *Iſrael*, in Worſhipping a Molten Calf, when *Moſes* was in the Mount, God's Wrath was kindled againſt them; and the Lord ſaid to *Moſes*, *Now therefore let me alone, that my Wrath may wax hot againſt them, and that I may conſume them: and I will make of thee a great Nation*; and *Moſes* beſought the Lord his God, for his great Name ſake, to turn away from his fierce Wrath; and the Lord repented of the Evil which he had thought to do unto his People, *Exod.* 32. 1, to 14.

19. *Moſes* prayed to the Lord for his Preſence, and that he would pleaſe to ſhew him his Glory; and the Lord pro-

promised him his Presence, and also condescended to *Moses* in his latter Request, to shew him his Glory (as far as poor Mortal Man is capable to receive here) and God said to him, *Thou canst not see my Face, and live: Behold, there is a place by me, thou shalt stand upon a Rock; and it shall come to pass, while my Glory passeth by, I will put thee in a clift of the Rock, and cover thee with my Hand; and I will take away my Hand, and thou shalt see my back parts*, Exod. 33. 10. to 23.

20. *Israel* murmured at *Taberah*, and God was angry with them, and kindled a Fire, which burn'd amongst them, and consumed them in the uttermost

termoſt parts of the Camp; and *Moſes* prayed to the Lord, and the Fire was quenched, *Numb.* 11. 1, 2.

21. Becauſe of the Sedition and Murmurings of the *Iſraelites*, *Moſes* was ſorely oppreſſed, and ſpread his Caſe before the Lord, complaining That the governing thoſe People was a burden too heavy for him to bear; and God heard his Complaint, and commanded him to gather Seventy Elders of the People, promiſing he would take of the Spirit that was upon *Moſes*, and put it upon them; *and they* (ſaid the Lord) *ſhall bear the Burden of the People with thee, that thou bear it not thy ſelf alone*, Numb. 11. 10, to 17.

22.

22. *Aaron* and *Miriam* murmur'd against *Moses*; for which God was angry with them, and struck *Miriam* with a Leprosie, as white as Snow; and *Moses* prayed to the Lord, saying, *Heal her now, O God*; and after seven days she was received into the Camp again whole, *Numb.* 12. 11, 12, 13.

23. But the Lord hearkened to *Moses* at that time also, when the Lord was very angry with *Aaron*, to have destroyed him; and *Moses* prayed for *Aaron* also, the same time, *Deut.* 9. 19, 20. *Numb.* 12. 9, 11.

24. Upon the Evil Spies report of the good Land, *Israel* was about to choose them Captains to return back to *Egypt*;

Egypt; and then *Moſes*, *Aaron*, *Joſhua* and *Caleb*, diſ-ſwaded them from it; for the People murmuring, provoked God grievouſly; and he ſaid to *Moſes*, *I will ſmite them with the Peſtilence, and diſ-inherit them; and will make of thee a greater Nation*, &c. And *Moſes* prayed to the Lord for *Iſrael*, ſaying, *Let the Power of my Lord be great*, &c. *and pardon, I beſeech thee, the Iniquities of this People, according to the greatneſs of thy Mercy*, &c. And God anſwered *Moſes*, *I have pardoned, according to thy Word*, Numb. 14. 1, to 20.

25. At the Sedition of *Corah*, *Dathan*, and *Abiram*, with Two Hundred and Fifty of the Aſſembly, Famous in the Con-

Congregation, Men of Renown, they gathered themselves together against *Moses* and *Aaron*; this Rebellion so provoked God, that he bid *Moses* and *Aaron* separate themselves from the People, that he might consume them in a moment; and they fell on their *Faces*, and said, *O God, the God of the Spirits of all Flesh, shall one Man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with the whole Congregation?* And the Lord heard them, and spared the Congregation; but bid them separate the People from the Three chief movers of this Sedition; and God caused the Earth to open and swallow them up alive, and all that appertained to them; and Fire

came

came forth from the Lord, and consumed the Two Hundred and Fifty Men, that joyned with *Korah*, *Dathan* and *Abiram*, Numb. 16. 1, to 32.

26. Because the *Israelites* loathed the Manna which God gave them from Heaven, they were stung with fiery Serpents, that they died; and *Moses* prayed for the People; and the Lord commanded him to set up a *Brazen Serpent* upon a Pole, that every one that looked upon it should live; and *Moses* made a *Serpent* of *Brass*; and it came to pass, that if a *Serpent* had bitten any Man, when he beheld the *Serpent* of Brass, he lived, *Numb.* 21. 7, 8, 9.

27.

27. The Lord acquainting *Moſes* of his Death; *Moſes*, as a careful Shepherd, or Governour, beſought God for a Succeſſor, who might lead the People; and God appointed *Joſhua*, the Son of *Nun*, in the ſtead of *Moſes*, *Numb.* 27. 12, to 21.

28. *Iſrael* fled before their Enemies at *Ai*; *Joſhua* ſought the Lord by Prayer, and the Lord ſhewed him the Cauſe thereof, and inſtructed him what to do, and how to find out the Tranſgreſſor; by whoſe Puniſhment the Lord's Diſpleaſure was removed from Iſrael, *Joſhua* 7.

29. At the *Prayer* of *Joſhua*, the Sun ſtood ſtill upon *Gibeon*, and the Moon in the Valley of *Ajalon*,

Ajalon, until the People had avenged themſelves upon their Enemies, for the ſpace of a whole Day; and there was no Day like that, before or after; for the Lord hearkened to the Voice of a Man, *Joſhua* 10. 12, 13, 14.

30. *Iſrael*, under a true Senſe of their great Declenſion from the Law of God, in their Diſtreſs cryed unto the Lord; and he heard their *Prayers*, and he raiſed up *Othniel*, *Caleb*'s Nephew, who delivered them out of the hand of their Enemies, *Judg.* 3. 9, 10.

31. *Iſrael* again did Evil, and the Lord ſuffered *Eglon*, King of *Moab*, to oppreſs them, and they were tributary to him Eighteen Years; but they

cryed unto the Lord in their Distress, and he heard them, and raised them up *Ehud*, the Son of *Gera*, a Left-handed Man, who delivered *Israel* out of the hands of their Enemies, and the Land had rest Eighty Years, *Judg.* 3. 15, to 30.

32. After *Ehud* was dead, *Israel* sinned again, and provoked the Lord, and he sold them into the hand of *Jabin*, King of *Canaan*, for he had Nine Hundred Chariots of Iron; and Twenty Years he mightily oppressed them; And they cryed to the Lord in their Distress, and he heard their *Prayers*, and raised up *Deborah* a Judge, and *Baruck* a General, who rescued *Israel* out

out of the hands of their Enemies, *Judg.* 4.

33. *Israel* sinned against God the fourth time, and he suffered the *Midianites* and *Amalekites*, &c. greatly to impoverish them; so that when they had sown their Corn in the Ground, they came as Grashoppers for number, and their Cattle, and eat and destroyed their Increase; insomuch they made them Dens in the Mountains, and Caves in the Earth, and strong Holds; and they cryed unto the Lord because of the *Midianites*, and he sent his Prophet to shew them their Backslidings, and raised up *Gideon*, a poor Thresher of Wheat to be a Judge over *Israel*; and *Gideon*,

with only Three Hundred Men, took the two Princes of the *Midianites*, *Oreb* and *Zeeb*, and slew them, and overcame the Multitude of their Enemies, whose number was as the Sand on the Sea-side; thus were they subdued before *Israel*, so that they lift up their Head no more, and the Country was in quietness Forty Years in the Days of *Gideon*, Judg. Chap. 6, 7, and 8. 28.

34. *Gideon* having seen an Angel, was afraid, and prayed to the Lord; and God heard, and answered him, saying, *Peace be unto thee; fear not, thou shalt not die*, Judg. 6. 22, 23.

35.

35. At the *Prayer* of *Gideon*, for a Confirmation, that God would save *Israel* by his hand, God granted that *Gideon*'s Fleece of Wooll should be wet with Dew, and all the Ground beside it was dry, *Judg.* 6. 36, 38.

36. Again, at the *Prayer* of *Gideon*, the Lord granted that his Fleece of Wool was dry, and upon the Ground about it was Dew, *Judg.* 6. 39, 40.

37. *Israel*, for their great Apostacy, and Worshipping the several gods of the Nations, the Anger of the Lord was hot against them, and he suffered the *Philistines* and *Ammonites* to oppress them sorely; and they cryed to the Lord,

Lord, who at first seemed to reject them, and bid them, *Go to the gods they had served*; but *Israel* submitted themselves to the Lord, and prayed again, and confessed their Sins, and forsook them, and served the Lord, and his Soul was grieved for their Misery; and God put his Spirit upon *Jephthah*, who was both Judge and General over *Israel*, and subdued their Enemies before them, *Judg.* 10, 11, 12 Chapters.

38. At the *Prayer* of *Manoah*, the Father of *Sampson*, the Angel of God, who before had appeared to *Manoah's* Wife, appeared again, and instructed him and his Wife, how they should order *Sampson*

ſon when he was Born, *Judg.* 13. 8, to 14.

39. After *Sampſon* had ſlain a Thouſand Men with the Jaw-Bone of an Aſs, he was ſore a-thirſt, and called on the Lord; and God heard him, and cauſed Water to iſſue out of a hollow place of the Jaw-Bone, and *Sampſon* drank, and his Spirit was revived; and he called the place *En-hakkore*, which is to ſay, the Well of him that called and cryed, *Judg.* 15. 15, to 19.

40. *Hannah* prayed to the Lord for a Son, and vowed that ſhe would give him to the Lord all the Days of his Life; and God granted her the Petition which ſhe asked

asked of him, 1 *Sam.* 1. 9, to 27.

41. *Eli*, the high Priest, blessed *Elkanah*, and prayed the Lord to give him of *Hannah* more Children, instead of *Samuel*, which she had dedicated to the Lord, and the Lord answered his Request, and gave *Elkanah* of *Hannah*, three Sons and two Daughters more, 1 *Sam.* 2. 20, 21.

42. At the *Prayer* of *Samuel* the *Prophet* for *Israel*, the Lord thundered with a mighty Thunder upon the *Philistines*, their Adversaries, and so discomfited them, that they were smitten before *Israel*, 1 *Sam.* 7. 5, to 11.

43. *Israel*

43. *Israel* having required a King to Rule over them, contrary to the Mind of God: It grieved *Samuel*, and he prayed to the Lord, and the Lord heard him, and directed him what to do, 1 *Sam.* 8. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

44. At the *Prayer* of *Samuel*, the Prophet, the Lord sent Thunder and Rain, which caused the People greatly to fear the Lord, 1 *Sam.* 12. 16, 17, 18.

45. It was told *David*, that *they Fight against* Keilah, *and they Rob the Threshing Floors*; and *David* enquired of the Lord, saying, *Shall I go up and Smite the* Philistines, *and Save* Keilah? And the Lord said unto *David*,

vid, Go and Smite the Philistines, *and Save* Keilah, 1 *Sam.* 23. 1, 2.

46. And *David*'s Men said, *Behold, we be afraid here in* Judah, *How much more then if we come to* Keilah, *against the Armies of the* Philistines? Then *David enquired of the Lord yet again, and the Lord answered him, and said, Arise, go down to* Keilah, *for I will deliver the* Philistines *into thy hand. So* David *and his Men went and fought with the* Philistines, *and brought away their Cattle, and Smote them with a great Slaughter: So* David *saved the Inhabitants of* Keilah, 1 *Sam.* 23. 3, 4, 5.

47. And *David* heard that *Saul* was coming to *Keilah* to take

take him Priſoner, and to Deſtroy the City for his ſake; and he prayed to the Lord to tell him if it was ſo, ſaying, *Lord God of Iſrael, will* Saul *come down as thy Servant hath heard? I beſeech thee, tell thy Servant. And the Lord ſaid, He will come down*, 1 *Sam.* 13. 7, to 11.

48. And *David* ſaid, *Will the Men of* Keilah *deliver me up, and my Men, into the hand of* Saul? *And the Lord ſaid, They will deliver thee up:* Upon which Information, *David* and his Men left the City, and eſcaped the hand of their Enemies; for *Saul* had called all the People together to go down to *Keilah*, to beſiege *David* and his Men, 1 *Sam.* 23. 7, 8, 11, 12.

49. *And one told* David, *saying*, Ahithophel *is among the Conspirators, with* Absalom, (who rebell'd against *David* his Father.) *And* David *said, O Lord, I pray thee, turn the Counsel of* Ahithophel *into foolishness.*-- *And* Absalom *and all the Men of* Israel *said, The Counsel of* Hushai *the* Archite *is better than the Counsel of* Ahithophel. *And when* Ahithophel *saw that his Counsel was not followed, he saddled his Ass, went home, put his House in order, and hanged himself*, 2 Sam. 15. 31, & 17. 14, 23.

50. *David* seeing Seventy Thousand fall by the Pestilence, prayed to the Lord, and the Lord directed *David* by the Prophet *Gad*, to rear an Altar, and offer Burnt-Offer-

Offerings thereon, and he did ſo, and the Lord was intreated for the Land, and the *Plague* was ſtay'd, 2 *Sam.* 24. 17, to 25.

51. There was a *Famine* in the in the days of *David* three Years, and he ſought the Face of the Lord concerning it, and God anſwer'd, and ſhew'd him wherefore it was, & afterwards the Lord was intreated for the Land, 2 *Sam.* 21. 1, & 14.

52. And God ſaid to *Solomon*, *Ask what I ſhall give thee:* And *Solomon above all things prayed for Wiſdom, that he might Judge the People aright:* And his *Prayer* pleaſed the Lord, and he granted him not only Wiſdom, inſomuch that he was the Wiſeſt Man that ever was; but

God added to his Wisdom, Riches and Honour, so that there was no King like him, 1 *Kings* 3. 7. to 13. 2 *Chron.* 1. 7, to 12.

53. *Solomon* having finished that Famous Temple, gathered *Israel* together at the Consecration thereof, and kneeled down on a Brazen Scaffold made to that purpose, and made a large and solemn *Prayer* to God; when he had finished his *Prayer*, Fire came down from Heaven and consumed the Burnt-Offering and Sacrifices, and the Glory of the Lord filled the Temple, so that the *Priests* could not enter in; and God also appeared to *Solomon* by Night, and said, *I*

have

have heard thy Prayer; and gave him many *Promiſes* upon Condition that He and his People ſhould obſerve his Statutes and Judgments, 1 *King.* 8. 2. *Chro.* 6. and chap 7. 1, 12. to the end.

54. At the *Prayer* of the Prophet and Man of God, the Arm of *Jeroboam*, King of *Iſrael*, which was dryed up for holding it out againſt the Prophet, was reſtored again, and became as it was before, 1 *King.* 13. 6.

55. *Elijah* prayed earneſtly that it might not Rain upon the Earth, and it rained not for the ſpace of three Years and ſix Months, 1 *King.* 17. 1. *James* 5. 17, 18.

56. *Elijah* prayed again,

and the Heavens gave Rain, and the Earth brought forth her Fruit after three Years and six Months Drought, 1 *King.* 18. 42. *James* 5. 18.

57. At the *Prayer* of *Elijah*, the Son of the Widow of *Zarephath* was raised from the Dead, and the Lord heard the Voice of *Elijah*, and the Soul of the Child went into him again, and he revived, 1 *King.* 17. 20, 21, 22.

58. The *Reubenites*, *Gadites*, and half Tribe of *Manasseth*, went out to War against the *Agarites*, and they cryed to the Lord in Battel, and he was intreated of them, *because they put their trust in him*, and God gave their Enemies into their hands, an exceeding prey,

prey, *viz.* Fifty Thouſand Camels, Two Hundred and Fifty Thouſand Sheep, Two Thouſand Aſſes, and of Men One Hundred Thouſand, 1 *Chron.* 5. 20, 21.

59. At the *Prayer* of *Elijah*, the Fire of the Lord fell and conſumed the Burnt-Sacrifice, and the Wood, *&c.* to convince the Idolaters that the Lord was God, 1 *King.* 18. 36, to 39.

60. *Elijah* being perſecuted by *Jezabel*, fled into the Wilderneſs, and there prayed to the Lord; as he was aſleep, an Angel awaked him, and bid him *Ariſe and Eat*, for there was a Cake ready baked on the Coals, and a Cruiſe of Water at his head; and he eat

eat and drank, and lay down again; and the Angel awaked him the second time to eat, and he did eat, and in the strength of that Meat, he travelled forty Days and Nights unto *Horeb*, the Mount of God, 1 *Kings* 19. 4. to 8.

61. At the *Prayer* of *Elishah*, the Prophet, the *Shunamite*'s Child was raised from the Dead, 2 *King*. 4. & 33, 34.

62. At the *Prayer* of *Elisha*, the Lord opened the Eyes of his Servant, and he beheld how his Master was defended and surrounded with Horses and Chariots of Fire, at the same time when the Host of the *Syrians* had encompassed the City *Dothan*, to take the Prophet, 2 *Kings* 6. 13, to 17. 63.

63. At the *Prayer* of the Prophet *Eliſha*, the Hoſt of the *Syrians* was ſmote with blindneſs, for they were ſent to apprehend him, and carry him to the King of *Syria*, 2 *Kings* 6. 18.

64. They, the Hoſt of the *Syrians*, being Blind, the Prophet *Eliſha* led them to *Samaria*, even into the hands of their Enemies, and he prayed the Lord to open their Eyes, and they ſaw, and behold they were in the midſt of *Samaria*, but the Prophet would not ſuffer the King of *Iſrael* to hurt them, but cauſed him to prepare Proviſions for them, and they went ſafe home to their Maſter the King of *Syria*, and came no more into the

the Land of *Israel*, 2 *Kings* 6. 17, to 23.

65. Jabez *was more Honourable than his Brethren*:— He *called on the God of* Israel, *saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and inlarge my Coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from Evil, that it may not grieve me. And God granted him that which he Requested*, 1 Chron. 4. 9, 10.

66. *Uzziah* sought the Lord, and God made him to prosper, and helped him against his Enemies, and made the *Philistines*, *Arabians* and *Ammonites*, Tributaries to him; but he grew Proud with the Success that was given

given him, and invaded the Prieſts Office, and aſſumed to offer Incenſe in the Temple; for which he was a Leper to the day of his Death, and was depoſed the Kingdom, and his Son *Jotham* Reigned in his ſtead, 2 *Chron.* 26. and 2 *Kings* 1. 5.

67. The Idolatry of *Iſrael* was ſo great, the Lord ſuffered the Kings of *Syria* to oppreſs them ſorely; and *Jehoahaz* beſought the Lord, and the Lord hearkened to him, and gave *Iſrael* a Saviour, ſo that they went out from under the hand of the *Syrians*, 2 Kings 13. 2, to 5.

68.

68. Now for a long time *Israel* had been without the true God, and without a teaching Priest, and without Law: In those times there was no Peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great Vexations were upon all the Inhabitants of the Countries; and Nation was destroyed of Nation, and City of City; for God did vex them with all Adversity: And they repented, and put away the abominable Idols out of the Land, and they enter'd into Covenant, to seek the Lord God of their Fathers; and they sought the Lord with their whole Desire; and he was found of them, and gave them Rest round about,

69. *Sennacherib*, King of *Aſſyria*, ſent a Blaſphemous Threatning Letter to good *Hezekiah* King of *Judah*; and *Hezekiah* went up into the Houſe of the Lord, and ſpread the Letter before the Lord, and prayed unto the God of *Iſrael*; and the Lord ſent the Prophet *Iſaiah* to comfort him, letting him know he had heard his *Prayer*, and would defend *Jeruſalem*, and ſave it for his own ſake, and his Servant *David*'s ſake: And it came to paſs that Night, the Angel of the Lord ſlew One Hundred Eighty Five Thouſand of the *Aſſyrian* Hoſt. So *Sennacherib* departed home to *Nineveh*, and his Sons killed him as he was Worſhipping his Idol *Niſroch*,

2 *Kings*

2 *Kings* 19. 2 *Chron.* 32. 20, 21.

70. *Huldah* the Propheteſs, foretelling the Deſtruction of *Jeruſalem*: But, ſaid ſhe, *in the Name of the Lord, Tell the Man that ſent you to me,* (*Joſiah* King of *Judah*) *Becauſe thy Heart was tender, and thou haſt humbled thy ſelf before the Lord, when thou heardſt what I ſpake againſt this Place, and the Inhabitants thereof, that they ſhould become a Deſolation and a Curſe, and haſt rent thy Clothes, and wept before me; I alſo have heard thee, ſaith the Lord: Therefore ſhalt thou go to thy Grave in Peace, and thy Eyes ſhall not ſee all the Evil which I will bring upon this place,* 2 Kings 22. 15, to 20.

71.

71. *Hezekiah* receiving the Meſſage of Death from the Prophet *Iſaiah*, turned his Face to the Wall, and prayed to the Lord; and the Lord ſent the ſame Prophet back to tell him, He had heard his *Prayer*, and ſeen his *Tears*, and would ſo ſpeedily heal him, that he ſhould on the third Day go up to the Houſe of the Lord: And moreover, that he would add to his Days Fifteen Years, 2 *Kings* 20.

72. The Prophet *Iſaiah*, as a Sign that the Lord would ſo ſuddenly heal King *Hezekiah*, cryed to the Lord, and he brought the Shadow [of the Sun] ten degrees backward; by which it had gone down in the Dial of *Ahaz*,

2 *Kings* 20. 8, to 11. *Isa.* 38. 8. *Ecclesiasticus* 48. 23.

71. *Hezekiah* prayed for the People, in as much as they had eaten of the Passover, and were not cleansed, according to the Law; and the Lord hearkened to *Hezekiah*, and healed the People, 2 *Chron.* 30. 18, 19, 20.

72. *Manasseh*, that idolatrous and wicked King, who filled *Jerusalem* with Blood, he set up an Idol in the House of God, caused his Children to pass through the Fire, used Witchcraft, dealt with a Familiar Spirit, and Wizards; for his great and many Impieties, God suffered the King of *Assyria* to carry him Captive to *Babylon*, bound in Fetters of Iron;

Iron; and in his Affliction he beſought the Lord his God, and humbled himſelf greatly, and prayed unto Him; and God was entreated of him, and heard his Supplication, and brought him into his Kingdom again in *Jeruſalem*; and *Manaſſeh* put down Idolatry, 2 *Kings* 21. 16. 2 *Chron.* 33. 12.

73. *Jeroboam*, when he had revolted with the Ten Tribes, there was War between him and *Judah*, Eight Hundred Thouſand of *Jeroboam*'s Army, againſt Four Hundred Thouſand of *Judah*; and *Iſrael* had caught *Judah* in an Ambuſcade. When *Judah* found their Enemies both before and behind them, they

cryed to the Lord; and God heard them, and turned the ſucceſs of the War to *Judah*; and God ſmote *Jeroboam*, and all *Iſrael*, before *Judah* and *Abijah* their King; and they ſlew of *Iſrael* Five Hundred Thouſand choſen Men, 2 *Chro.* 13.

76. *Aſa* ſucceeded *Abijah* his Father, and there came out againſt him and *Judah*, *Zerah* the Ethiopian, with an Hoſt of a Thouſand Thouſand, and Three Hundred Chariots; *Aſa* went out againſt him, and ſet the Battel in aray; and *Aſa* cryed to the Lord his God, and ſaid, *Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power*:

power: Help us, O Lord our God, for we reſt on thee; and in thy Name we go againſt this Multitude: Thou art our God, let not Man prevail againſt thee. And the Lord ſmote the *Ethiopians* before *Aſa* and *Judah*; and the *Ethiopians* fled; and *Aſa*, and the People with him, purſued the *Ethiopians*, and overthrew them; for they were deſtroyed before the Lord, and before his Hoſt; and they had much Spoil, 2 *Chron.* 14.

77. *Jehoſaphat* King of *Judah*, being in great diſtreſs, becauſe of the Army of the *Moabites*, *Ammonites* and *Edomites*, who came to Invade the Land, he went to the Temple, and prayed to God, and

and asked help of him, with all *Judah*, their Wives, and little Ones; and the Lord sent his Prophet *Jehaziel* to comfort them, and let them know, they should not need to Fight against them; for the Lord caused *Moab* and *Ammon* to Fight against Mount *Seir*; and when they had destroyed them, every one helped to destroy one another, insomuch that they were three Days gathering of the Spoil, 2 *Chron.* 20.

78. *Ezra*, in his Return with some of the *Jews* from *Babylon* to *Jerusalem*, proclaimed a Fast; and besought the Lord to preserve them and their little Ones in their Journey; for he was ashamed to ask the

the King for a Guard, becauſe he had told him, *The Hand of the Lord was upon all them for good, that ſeek him.* So the Lord was intreated, and his Hand was upon them, and delivered them from all their Enemies that lay in wait by the way, *Ezra* 8. 21, 22, 23, 31, 32.

79. *Nehemiah* being at *Shuſhan*, and hearing of the Affliction and Reproach of his Brethren (the *Jews*) the Remnant that were left of the Captivity at *Jeruſalem*, and that the Walls of the City were broken down, and the Gates burn'd, he mourned, faſted and prayed before the God of Heaven for *Iſrael*, and that God would turn the Heart of the King towards

towards them; and the Lord heard his Prayer, and enclined the Heart of *Artaxerxes*, Emperor of *Assyria*, to grant him Letters of Commission to build *Jerusalem*, and repair the Walls thereof; and unto the Governours of the Provinces to assist *Nehemiah* in this good Work, *Nehem.* 1 & 2 Chapters.

88. Wicked *Haman* by Lies obtained of King *Ahasuerus* a Decree, for the Destruction of the *Jews*; when *Mordecai* the *Jew* knew it, he rent his Clothes, and put on Sackcloth, he and *Esther* the Queen; and all the *Jews* cryed with a bitter Cry to the Lord, and God answered their Prayers, and turned the Heart of the King, that

that he Reverſed the Decree, againſt the *Jews*, and *Haman* was hanged upon the ſame Gallows he had erected for *Mordecai*; ſo that the *Jews* had Light and Gladneſs, Joy and Honour, and a good Day, and many of the People of the Land became Jews, *Eſther* 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8 Chapters.

81. *Job*, in his many grievous, bitter and ſore Exerciſes, often prayed to the Lord, and kept his Integrity; and the Lord at laſt turned the Captivity of *Job*, and gave him twice as much as he had before, *Job* 7. 17, to 20. & 10. 14. & 42. 10. & 10. 9, 13, 21.

82. The Anger of God being kindled againſt *Job*'s

Friends, becauſe they had not ſpoken of *Job* the things which were right, *Job* prayed for them, and offered Burnt-Sacrifice, and the Lord accepted *Job*, for them, *Job* 42. 7, 8, 9.

83. *David*, when he fled from *Abſalom* his Son, who raiſed a Rebellion in his Kingdom, cryed to the Lord, and God heard him out of his holy Hill, and ſmote all his Enemies, and reſtored him again unto his Kingdoms, *Pſalm* 3. 2 *Sam.* 18.

84. *David*, in his Diſtreſſes, called upon the Lord, and he heard his Voice out of his Temple, and his Cry entred into his Ears: And God gave him the Necks of his Enemies,

mies, and delivered him from the ſtriving of the People; ſo that his Enemies were ſubdued under him, 2 *Sam.* 22. *Pſalm* 18.

85. *David* hid himſelf in a Mountain in the Wilderneſs of *Ziph*, becauſe *Saul* ſought his Life every Day; and the *Ziphims* informed *Saul* thereof; and *David* prayed to God, and the Lord ſuffered not *Saul* to take him; for while he was purſuing *David*, Meſſengers came and told *Saul*, the *Philiſtines* invaded his Country. So *David* was delivered at that time, *Pſalm* 54. and 1 *Sam.* 23. 14, 26, 28.

86. *David* being hid in the Cave at *Engedi*, *Saul* and

Three Thouſand Choſen Men purſued him; and *David* prayed to the Lord, as may be ſeen in the 57th *Pſalm*, and God heard him, in that he delivered *Saul* into the hands of *David*, who might have killed him, but would not, nor ſuffer them that would; which had ſuch Effect upon *Saul*, that he confeſſed his Evil, and acknowledged *David* to be more Righteous than he, and went home, 2 *Sam.* 24. *Pſalm* 57.

87. *Saul* ſent Souldiers to beſet the Houſe where *David* was, to kill him; and *David* prayed to the Lord to defend and deliver him; and he eſcaped by the means of his Wife

Wife *Michal*, 1 *Sam.* 19. 12. *Pſalm* 59.

88. *David* ſought the Lord by Prayer, and God heard him, and delivered him out of all his Troubles and Fears, *Pſalm* 34. 4. & 66. 17, 19.

89. The Church prayeth to be directed where Chriſt feeds his Flock; he directs her, and gives her gracious Promiſes, *Cant.* 1. 7, to 11.

90. The Lord ſends forth *Jeremiah*, whom he had ordained a Prophet to the Nations; he, in the Senſe of his own Weakneſs, prayed to God, ſaying, *O Lord God, I cannot ſpeak, for I am a Child.* And the Lord anſwered him, *Say not, I am a Child; for*

thou shalt go to all I send thee; and whatsoever I Command thee, thou shalt speak; be not afraid of their Faces, I am with thee to deliver thee, Jer. 1. 5, 6, 7, 8.

91. *Jeremiah,* because of the Hatred of the People, complained to the Lord, and God answereth him, *Verily it shall be well with thy Remnant, verily I will cause the Enemy to entreat thee well in the time of Evil and Affliction,* Jer. 15. 10.

92. *Jeremiah,* the Prophet, in his Troubles, made his Application to God, upon the Conspiracy of the Men of *Anathoth* against his Life, and because of the wickedness of the *Jews*; and God was pleased

ſed to anſwer him upon both thoſe occaſions, *Jer.* 11. 18. & 12. 1, to 6.

93. *Jeremiah* prayed again to God, and he anſwered him, *If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou ſhalt ſtand before me: And if thou take forth the Precious from the Vile, thou ſhalt be as my Mouth; and I will deliver thee out of the Hand of the Wicked, and redeem thee out of the Hand of the Terrible,* Jer. 15. 18. to 21.

94. After the Deſolation of *Jeruſalem*, *Jeremiah*, at the Requeſt of the Remnant that was left, prayed to the Lord for his Direction, whether they ſhould tarry in *Judea*, or go down to *Egypt*; after

ten days the Lord answered the Prophet, and admonished the People not to go down into *Egypt*, for that the *Sword* should follow them thither; but if they would abide in *Judea*, God would shew Mercies to them, and cause them to dwell in their own Land, *Jer.* 42.

95. *Jeremiah*, on behalf of *Judah* and *Jerusalem*, when in Captivity, called upon the Name of the Lord; and God heard their Voice, and hid not his Ear at the breathing of their Cry, but drew near in the Day they called upon him, and said, *Fear not*, Lam. 3. 55, 56, 57.

96. *Ezekiel* besought the Lord, that he would not make

a full end of *Iſrael*; and the Lord ſhewed him that he would ſave a Remnant, and gather them from among the People, and Countries where they were ſcattered, and give them one Heart, and put a new Spirit within them, *Ezek.* 11. 13, to 20.

97. At the Prayer of *Daniel*, *Hananiah*, *Miſhael* and *Azariah*, unto the God of Heaven, the Lord revealed *Nebuchadnezzar*'s Dream to *Daniel*, which neither *Nebuchadnezzar* could remember, nor all the Wiſe Men of *Chaldea* tell him; and God gave *Daniel* alſo the Interpretation of the Dream, and the King confeſſed their God, to be the Revealer of Secrets, *Dan.* 2.

98.

98. *Daniel* prayed to the most high God for the Return of the Captivity of the People *Israel*; and as soon as he began to Pray, God sent the Angel *Gabriel*, before he had ended his Prayer, to comfort him, and inform him of the determined time of the Return of the People's Captivity; also, touching the *Messiah*, our Lord Jesus, his coming in the Flesh, &c. Dan. 9.

99. The Lord shewed unto *Amos* the Prophet, the Judgment of Grashoppers which he would bring upon *Israel*; and the Prophet prayed to the Lord to forgive them, and the Lord heard his *Prayer*, and repented of what he intended, and said, *It shall not be*, Amos 7. 3.

100. And the Lord alſo ſhewed to *Amos*, and called to contend by Fire; but the Prophet prayed to the Lord, and the Lord repented again, and ſaid, *This alſo ſhall not be*, Amos 7. 4, 6.

101. God having threatned to deſtroy *Nineveh*, the People repented, and cryed mightily to God, and God heard their Prayers, and ſaw their Works, and had Compaſſion, and repented of the Evil that he ſaid he would do unto them, and did it not, *Jonah* 3. 3, 10.

102. *Jonah* refuſing his Duty, took Shipping at *Joppa*, to flee unto *Tarſhiſh*, from the Preſence of the Lord; but a mighty Tempeſt ariſing, cauſed the Mariners to caſt Him

into the Sea; and a great Fish swallowed up *Jonah*, who was three Days and Nights in the Belly of the Fish, and from thence he prayed unto the Lord, and God heard him, and spake unto the Fish, who vomited *Jonah* upon dry Land, *Jonah* 1 and 2 ch.

103. At the Centurion's Prayer of Faith, our Lord Jesus spake the Word, and the Centurion's Servant was healed, *Mat.* 8. 5, 8, 13.

104. The Disciples of Jesus being in great Distress by reason of a Storm at Sea, prayed unto Jesus to save them, or else they should perish; and he arose and rebuked the Winds and the Sea, and there was a great Calm, *Mat.* 8. 23, to 27.

105. *Peter* ſeeing *Jeſus* walking on the Sea, deſired to do ſo too; and *Peter* walked upon the Sea; but when he ſaw the Wind boiſtrous, his Faith failed, and *Peter* began to ſink, and cryed to his Lord to ſave him; and *Jeſus* immediately ſtretched forth his Hand, and caught him; and when they were come into the Ship, the Wind ceaſed, *Mat.* 14. 28, 29, 31, 32.

106. Tho' our bleſſed Lord Jeſus ſeemed at firſt to refuſe the *Syro-phœnician* Woman, who beſought him to heal her Daughter vexed with a Devil, yet when ſhe would not be denied, being content to be counted as the vileſt, ſo ſhe might obtain Mercy from

our

our Lord; he beholding her Faith, healed her Daughter, *Mat* 15. 22 to 28. *Mark* 7. 26 to 29.

107. A certain Man having an only Son, who was sore vexed with a Devil, kneeled down, and prayed unto our Lord Jesus; and he *rebuked the Devil, and the Child was Cured that very Hour*, Mat. 17. 14. to 18. Mark 9. 17. Luke 9. 38.

108. Two blind Men sitting in the Way, hearing that our Lord passed by, cryed to him, to have Mercy on them, and the People rebuked them, but they cryed the more, *Have Mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of* David; and *Jesus had Compassion on them, and touched their Eyes, and immediately they*

received

received Sight, and followed him, Mat. 20. 30, 34.

109. And there came a *Leper* to Jesus, beseeching and kneeling down, and said, *Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me whole*; and our Lord, moved with *Compassion*, touched him, and he was cleansed from his *Leprosie*, Mark 1. 40, 41, 42.

110. *Jarius*, on of the Rulers of the Synagogue, fell at the feet of Jesus, beseeching him to heal his Daughter, who lay at the point of Death, but our Lord being detained in the way by the Woman, who was Cured of her Bloody Issue by a touch of his Garment: News was brought to the Father, his Child was Dead. Our Lord hearing the word, encouraged the

the Maids Father, and went to his Houſe, and raiſed her to Life again, *Mark* 5. 22, to 42.

111. At *Bethſaida*, they brought a Blind Man to Jeſus, and beſought him to touch him; Jeſus put his hands upon him, and he was reſtored to his Sight, and ſaw every Man clearly, *Mark* 8. 22, to 25.

112. Poor Blind *Bartimeus* was earneſt with our Lord to have Mercy on him; and being charged to hold his Peace, he cryed the more earneſtly; Jeſes comforted him, and bad him go away, and immediately he received his Sight, *Mark* 10. 46. *Luke* 19. 35.

113. And the Angel ſaid to *Zachariah*, Father of *John* the Bap-

Baptiſt, *Fear not, for thy Prayer is heard, and thy Wife* Eliſabeth *ſhall bear thee a Son, and thou ſhalt call his Name* John, *Luke* 1. 13.

114. As our Lord entered *into a certain Village, there met him Ten Lepers, who ſtood afar off: And they lift up their Voices and ſaid, Jeſus have Mercy upon us. And when Jeſus ſaw them, he ſaid, Go ſhew your ſelves to the Prieſts. And as they went, they were cleanſed,* Luk. 17. 11, to 14.

115. The Thief upon the Croſs at the laſt hour repented, and prayed unto our Lord: And Jeſus had Mercy upon him, and promiſed him that he ſhould be that day with him in Paradice, *Luke* 23.42, 43.

116. The Church prayed to God that he would direct whether *Justus* or *Matthias*, whom they had in choise, was the Person that God did chuse, to take part of the Ministry and Apostleship, from which *Judas* by Transgression fell, and they gave forth their Lot, and the Lot fell upon *Matthias*, Acts 1. 24, 26.

117. The Church being under Persecution, fleeth to Prayer, that God would strengthen his Servants to speak his word with all boldness, *&c.* When they had prayed, the place wherein they were Assembled together was shaken (*as a Notice that the Lord heard their Prayer*) and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they

they ſpoke the word of God with boldneſs, *Acts* 4. 23, to 31.

118. At the Prayer of *Peter* and *John*, the Diſciples at *Samaria* received the Holy Ghoſt, *Acts* 8. 15, 16, 17.

119. At the Prayer of the Apoſtle *Peter*, a certain Diſciple, *Tabitha*, was raiſed from the Dead: She was a Woman full of *Good Works and Alms Deeds which She did*, Act. 9. 36, to 43.

120. *Cornelius* the Centurion, who feared God, prayed to the Lord alway, and an Angel appeared and told him, *His Prayers and Alms were come up for a Memorial before God*: And the Lord ordered it by his Divine Providence,

that *Cornelius* was farther inform'd concerning the Kingdom of God, by the Apoſtle *Peter*, Acts 10. 1, 2, 3, 4, 30, to 43.

121. *Peter* being in Prayer, ſaw a Viſion, wherein he was taught not to deſpiſe the *Gentiles*, as a Preparation for the Goſpel's being preached to *Cornelius* the Centurion, and afterwards to other *Gentiles*, Acts 10.

122. Prayer being made without ceaſing by the *Church*, unto God for *Peter*, whom *Herod* kept cloſe in Priſon, and intended alſo farther Miſchief againſt him, God ſent his Angel, who miraculouſly delivered *Peter* out of Priſon, *Acts* 12. 5, to 11.

123.

123. *Paul* and *Silas* being in Prison, and their Feet made fast in the Stocks, at mid-night they prayed and sang Praises unto God, and suddenly there was a great Earthquake, and immediately all the Doors were opened, and every one's Bonds were loosed, upon which the *Jaylor* and all his House believed in God, *Act.* 16. 25, to 34.

124. *Saul* being struck down by a Light from Heaven, was three days and three nights without Sight, and fasted and prayed unto God, and the *Lord* heard him, and commanded *Ananias* to go to *Saul*, and lay his hands on him, who was afterwards called *Paul*; and *Ananias* did so, and *Saul* received his Sight, and was *filled with the Holy Ghost*, and soon after *Paul* preached *Christ*, *that he is the Son of God*, Acts 9. 8, 11, 17, 20.

125. *Paul* prayed, and laid his hands on the Father of *Publius*, the Governour,

Governour, or Chief Man of the Iſland of *Malta*, and he was heal'd of a *Fever* and *bloody Flux*, Act. 28, 8, 124. Leaſt *Paul* ſhould be exalted above meaſure, he was buffeted by a Meſſenger of Satan, and in his Temptations he beſought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from him, and the Lord heard him, and gave him this Anſwer, *My* Grace *is ſufficient for thee, for my ſtrength is made perfect in weakneſs*, 2 Cor. 12. 7, 9.

And the very God of Peace ſanctifie you wholly; and I pray God your whole Spirit, and Soul, and Body be preſerved blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus. Faithful is he that hath called you, who alſo will do it, 1 Theſ. 5. 23, 24.

A N

Earneſt Perſwaſive,

By way of

POSTSCRIPT,

For all to Mind and Receive

Gods Holy Spirit in their Hearts,

That thereby they may be taught True Prayer; and be thoroughly Qualified for the Right Performance of all other Religious Duties.

Epheſ. 5. *v.* 18, 20.

Be not Drunk with Wine, wherein is Exceſs, but be filled with the Spirit; giving Thanks always for all Things unto God, even the Father, in the Name of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

By *JOHN FEILD.*

Field

POSTSCRIPT.

BY the foregoing Teſtimony and Inſtances, it plainly appears, That **Prayer** is of great Uſe and Benefit, and hath been greatly Anſwered, and wonderfully Encouraged by the Lord.

And it is natural (to all thoſe, that God by his Word hath begotten unto a Lively Hope in Chriſt his Son, and hath ſent forth his Spirit into their Hearts) for them to cry, *Abba* (a) *Father.* (a) *Gal.* 4. 6.

It's their *Duty* to make their Supplications unto Him that hath begotten them; becauſe it's by the Spirit of his Son in

their Hearts that they ſee their Wants, and the Sufficiency and Willingneſs there is in him to ſupply them; therefore they, in the Spirit of Chriſt, cry to Him, who is a God that heareth Prayer.

And his Spirit makes not only ſenſible of Wants, but begets Deſires, and raiſes Cries in the Soul to him; and is therefore principally to be minded and waited in.

For whoſoever ſlights God's Spirit, neglects to wait in it, and diſregards the Work and Motion of it in their own Hearts, can never rightly and ſenſibly know their Wants, nor what to ask, or pray for, or perform that *Duty of Prayer* as they ought.

It's

It's therefore my tender Counſel and Advice, in great Love, and much good Will, to all thoſe that believe this is the *Goſpel-Day*, long ſince (*b*) propheſied of; and that own the time is come, wherein the Father hath (according to *Chriſt's Prayer*, whom he always hears) ſent the *Comforter*, even the *Spirit of Truth*, which is the *Holy* (c) *Ghoſt*; and that Credit what the Apoſtle ſaith, who declares, a *Manifeſtation of the Spirit is given to* (d) *every one to profit withal:* To ſuch I ſay,

(b) *Joel* 2. 28.

(c) *John* 14. 26.

(d) 1 *Cor.* 12. 7.

1. Prize, O prize, the great *Love* of *God* and *Chriſt* herein!

2. Be humbly thankful unto *God* for this unſpeakable *Gift*.

3. Anſwer the *end* for which he hath given this bleſſed Spirit; receive it, wait in it, hearken to it, turn at its Reproofs, and give up to be led by it, that ye may be the *Sons of God*.

4. And then you thereby will not only, like the *Publican*, (e) ſee your Conditions, be moved to Pray in a Senſe of your Wants, but be enabled to ſerve God acceptably, through Jeſus Chriſt, and taught thereby to worſhip, and live to Him, and know his Things, and underſtand the Myſteries of his Heavenly Kingdom.

(e) *Mat.* 18. 13.

Therefore I earneſtly beſeech all, ſlight not, grieve, nor

nor (f) quench the Motions of it; neglect not this Gift, nor your diligent waiting upon God therein at all Times, and in all Places; in all Services and Religious Duties, wait in it, to be fitted by it; and neither *pray* nor *ſing* without the *Spirit*; for the true Praying (g) is with it, and true Singing in it.

(f) 1 *Theſſ.* 5. 19.

(g) 1 *Cor.* 14. 15.

And there is no Acceſs unto God, nor Admittance to the Throne of his Grace (to receive *help* in the time of *need*) but through (h) Jeſus Chriſt, and by this Spirit.

(h) *Epheſ.* 2. 18. *Rom.* 5. 2.

And altho' the World, that lies in Wickedneſs, hates and grieves this Spirit, mocks and derides

derides at it, and those that direct to it, and are guided by it, yet this Spirit convinceth *(i)* them of their Sin and Unbelief, of their Righteousness and Judgment, which is not given them, nor wrought in them by this Spirit, and therefore it reproves them thereof.

(i) *John 16. 8.*

O therefore, *tender Readers!* Love, receive, wait in, joyn to, obey and follow this Holy Spirit; and then it will open your Understandings, quicken your Souls to God, make you Alive, and beget you a new to Him, wash and sanctifie your Hearts, purge your Consciences from dead Works, and bring you to serve the Living *(k)* God, who

(k) *Heb. 9. 14.*

who is a Spirit, in the Spirit and Truth; and enable you to walk in the Newneſs (l) of the Spirit, and out of the Oldneſs of the Letter; and beget, increaſe and continue Love in your Hearts and Souls to God and Chriſt, to his Church and People, to his Law and Teſtimony, and to the Holy Scriptures, which the Holy Men of God wrot as they were moved by the Holy Ghoſt, or Spirit; which Spirit I am commending and recommending unto you, to be your Conductor and Leader, your Guide and Inſtructor in your Pilgrimage through this low World, and Vale of Tears; that ſo you may paſs the time of your Sojourn-

(l) Rom. 7. 6.

Sojourning *(m)* here with Fear. And give your ſelves to Reading the Holy Scriptures, and to Waiting upon God in this Spirit, and Praying to him in it, and Asking of him Wiſdom, and Meditating in his Holy Law, that converts *(n)* the Soul; and Regarding his Teſtimony, that makes Wiſe the Simple. And do not content your ſelves only to hear of God and Chriſt, and thoſe Memorable Things, and Noble Acts of the Righteous, recorded in Holy Writ, and that plenteous *Redemption, eternal Life & Salvation*, they were Witneſſes & Partakers of, nor with ſaying over Words, compiled and put together

(m) 1 *Pet.* 1. 17.

(n) *Pſalm* 19. 7.

gether by the Wiſdom of Men, called *Prayers*; but through Receiving and Obeying this Holy Spirit, and Believing in God and Chriſt, from whom it proceedeth, you may know and partake of that Life and Underſtanding it gives, be Born of it, Baptized (o) by it, Waſhed, Sanctified and Juſtified, in the Name of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and by the Spirit (p) of our God; and alſo taught and aſſiſted thereby to Pray to him without ceaſing; which is the ſincere Deſire and hearty Supplication of your Well-wiſhing Friend:

(o) 1 Cor. 12. 13.

(p) 1 Cor. 6. 11.

Who once more earneſtly Entreats you, Not to quench

this Spirit, neither disregard the inward and secret Convictions, Reproofs, and Counsel of it in your Hearts.

For it is *the Spirit of God that searcheth* (r) *all Things, yea, the deep Things of God*; and God by this is certainly Reproving and Counselling the Children of Men in this Age and Generation, as in Days past; and shews, and reproves them for, their evil Thoughts, wicked Words, ungodly Deeds, and execrable Oaths; and by this Spirit is certainly Counselling People to think on him, to consider their Ways, to amend their doings, to speak in his Fear; and to refrain from Oaths and Cursing, and all un-

(r) 1 *Cor.* 2. 10.

ungodly *Speaking*; and to ceaſe to do Evil, and learn to do *Well*, that he may waſh away their *Sins*, and pardon their *Offences*, for Chriſt's ſake.

Therefore have a care, O have a care! I beſeech you, for your never-dying Souls ſake, for your preſent Peace and future Happineſs ſake, that you do not, like them of old, *ſet at nought all* (s) *God's Counſel, nor ſlight his Reproofs*; for then know aſſuredly, *God will laugh at your Calamity, and mock when your Fear cometh, like Deſolation, and your Deſtruction like a Whirlwind, when Affliction and Anguiſh ſhall come upon you.* Then, O then, if you call upon him, he will not anſwer;

(s) *Prov.* 1. 24, *to the end.*

if

if you seek him early, you shall not find him; because you hated Knowledge, and did not chuse the Fear of the Lord; therefore you shall eat of the Fruit of your own Ways, and be filled with your own Devices.

But whosoever obeyeth God's Holy Spirit, and are guided by it in all things, are his Sons, and shall be quiet (t) from fear of Evil, and have a Place in his Eternal Kingdom for evermore. Therefore love and obey it, saith

(t) *Prov.* 1. 33.

Your Real, and
Well-wishing Friend,
John Feild.

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